

The Role of the Laparoscopic Nurse Practitioner

Essex Rivers Healthcare NHS Trust
Colchester General Hospital



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Surgical Care Practitioner: Laparoscopic Surgery

Colchester
Laparoscopic

What's in a Name

- Surgical assistant
- Nurse practitioner
- Sister
- Doctor
- Registrar
- Consultant!

Career History

- Trained in Dublin
- Worked in the USA
- Came to Colchester
- Staff nurse in theatre
- 1995 became a theatre sister in laparoscopic/vascular speciality

How the Role Evolved

- Career aspirations
- Planning
- Job description
- Support: individuals and from the Trust
- Business case.

Why Have a Laparoscopic Nurse?



"Nurse, get on the internet, go to SURGERY.COM, scroll down and click on the 'Are you totally lost?' icon."



MISTAKES

IT COULD BE THAT THE PURPOSE OF YOUR LIFE IS
ONLY TO SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS.

www.despair.com

Colchester
Laparoscopic

Why a Laparoscopic Nurse

- ❑ Group of patient's who have needs just like any other patients.
- ❑ Preadmission service, truly informed consent.
- ❑ List planning
- ❑ Someone to be responsible for equipment issues and purchasing of new.

Political Influences

- Department of Health / NHS Plan
- Working Time Directive.
- Changing Workforce Programme
- Modernisation Agency
- Skills for Health

Preadmission Service

- ❑ Not nurse led important part PRHO training
- ❑ Important to have a dedicated anaesthetist
- ❑ Liaison with anaesthetist.
- ❑ Allows better list planning.
- ❑ Order invest. Bloods, ECG, Echo and spirometry: not Xrays yet.
- ❑ Commence therapeutic relationship with the patient.

Theatre Role

- ❑ Surgical Assistance for Consultant /Registrar.
- ❑ Surgical activity: closing wounds formation stoma, etc.
- ❑ Minor Ops list.
- ❑ Arrange additional op time for elective and emergency patients.

Outpatient Clinics.

- Pre operative assessment at first outpatient attendance.
- Aim to put patient's on the waiting list when they are fit.
- Move towards patient involved admission.
- Post op follow ups

Education

- Qualified 1984
- Diploma in Pharmacology 1985
- CGFNS 1986
- State Boards 1987
- Advanced lap course 1993
- Basic Lap course 1994
- ENB N 77, Basic Surgical Skills: 1998.
- Bsc (hons) 2003.
- Msc May 2006.
- Independent nurse prescriber 2006

Role From a UK Standpoint.

- Milton Keynes
- Bedford Hospital
- Yeovil
- Tyneside.
- Bristol.

Accountability

- ❑ I am accountable for everything I do, the surgeon does not cover me.
- ❑ Vicarious liability, job description, need to keep up to date.
- ❑ MDU membership.
- ❑ Only covered to work in an NHS facility.
- ❑ Accountable to Prof of surgery for my work.
- ❑ Nursing accountability via Nurse Consultant

Associations

- National Treasurer of NAASP
- Chairman of ALTS
- Member of NATN
- Member of MDU.
- Member RCN

Changes to Service

- ❑ Implementation Day case Lap Chole
- ❑ Introduction of Enhanced Recovery programme for laparoscopic colorectal surgery.
- ❑ Assist with achieving 62 day target (see to treatment) for cancer patients
- ❑ Reduction in waiting list times and meeting 6 month target for all elective surgery now working to 18 week pathway.
- ❑ Acute surgical wound specialist.

Future of the Role and Lap Services at Colchester.

- Outpatient clinic see all routine follow ups patient satisfaction questionnaire.
- Employ another SCP, course coordinator, secretary and data collector
- Build purpose built education centre: ICENI
- Common thread through all episodes of the patient journey and 5 day stay ward
- Audit and evaluation.

Work Schedule

DAY	AM	PM
Monday	Pre admission	Pre admission
Tuesday	Day surgery	Main theatres
Wednesday	Main theatres	Admin
Thursday	Outpatients	Minor ops D/Surg
Friday	Main theatres	Main theatres

In Addition, some other Daily Tasks

- ❑ Visit patients pre and post operatively.
- ❑ Liaise with anaesthetists and chase various investigations.
- ❑ Meet with reps re new equipment.
- ❑ Liaise with secretaries ,admissions people, bed managers etc.
- ❑ Go through notes to plan appropriate admission.
- ❑ Managing waiting list for 4 lap colorectal Consultants.

Member of a Team

Most importantly I work as part of a team



Questions ?

Thank you for
your time.



PESSIMISM

EVERY DARK CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING,
BUT LIGHTNING KILLS HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE EACH YEAR WHO ARE TRYING TO FIND IT.

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